

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) Paper based on a fiber composition, the paper comprising at least one multitone effect watermark, wherein the watermark, when observed in transmitted light, has a set of dark zones and a set of pale zones arranged in the manner of a screened image, and the pale zones have a weight per unit area of fiber composition that is less than that of the dark zones.
2. (Currently Amended) Paper according to claim 1, wherein the ~~pale-dark~~ zones ~~present have~~ a weight per unit area of fiber composition that is ~~less than the same as~~ that of the remainder of the paper.
3. (Previously Presented) Paper according to claim 1, wherein the watermark appears as a screened image whose screen marks are constituted at least 50% by lines.
4. (Original) Paper according to claim 1, wherein the pale zones all have the same weight per unit area of fiber composition.
5. (Original) Paper according to claim 1, the paper being colored, fluorescent, iridescent, or presenting any other shading or optical effect.
6. (Currently Amended) A wire used in the ~~wet aqueous~~ stage of ~~papermaking~~ a method according to claim 8, comprising the wire being provided with a set of masks representing a pattern corresponding to ~~be made as~~ a multitone effect watermark on ~~the a~~ paper, the set of masks being denser in regions corresponding to the pale portions of the ~~looked for~~ watermark and less dense in the regions corresponding to the other portions of the ~~looked for~~ watermark.

7. (Currently Amended) A wire according to claim 6, wherein the masks are disposed on ~~the~~ a side of the wire that comes into contact with ~~the~~ an aqueous suspension containing the fibers of the paper.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of making a ~~screened image for forming~~ paper based on a fiber composition, said paper having a watermark, wherein the watermark, when observed in transmitted light, has a set of dark zones and a set of pale zones arranged in the manner of a screened image, and the pale zones have a weight per unit area of fiber composition that is less than that of the dark zones, the method comprising: ~~the following~~ steps:

making a screened image from a scanned image; ~~by using a known screening method;~~

making a perforated element from said screened image, ~~and suitable for use during the aqueous stage of paper formation,~~ said perforated element having solid regions ~~disposed~~ configured like the pale portions of the watermark; and

making a the watermark by means of said perforated element on the paper by placing the perforated element so ~~that it limits~~ as to limit accumulations of fibers in register with the solid regions of the perforated element during the aqueous stage of paper formation.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein the screened image is an image having screen marks constituted by lines.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the screened image is retouched prior to making the perforated element so as to ensure that no isolated pale zone exists in the watermark.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10, wherein the perforated element is made in the form of a one piece plate having perforations and in which the solid portions are disposed like the pale zones of the watermark.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~set of masks~~method according to claim ~~12~~8, wherein the perforated elements comprises masks that are shaped individually in the form of a special unit pattern for personalizing the ~~sheet of paper~~ by creating pale zones in the thickness thereof that reproduce the individual pattern of the masks.

14. (Currently Amended) A ~~set of masks~~method according to claim 13, wherein each unit pattern is in the form of a at least one letter, ~~or a set of letters~~.

15. (Previously Presented) Paper according to claim 1, wherein the screened image represents a portrait.

16. (Previously Presented) Paper according to claim 1, wherein the screen of the screened image has amplitude modulation using a constant pitch.

17. (Previously Presented) Paper according to claim 16, wherein the pitch lies in the range of five lines per centimeter to 20 lines per centimeter.

18. (Previously Presented) Paper according to claim 1, wherein the screen of the screened image has frequency modulation.

19. (Previously Presented) Paper according to claim 3, wherein the lines are inclined at 45°.

20. (New) Paper based on a fiber composition, the paper comprising at least one multitone effect watermark,

wherein the watermark, when observed in transmitted light, has a set of dark zones and a set of pale zones made in the fiber composition and arranged in the manner of a screened image, and

wherein the pale zones have a reduced thickness compared to that of the dark zones.

21. (New) Paper according to claim 20, wherein the watermark appears as a screened image whose screen marks are constituted at least 50% by lines.

22. (New) Paper according to claim 20, wherein the pale zones all have the same weight per unit area of fiber composition.

23. (New) Paper according to claim 20, the paper being colored, fluorescent, iridescent, or presenting any other shading or optical effect.

24. (New) Paper according to claim 20, wherein the screened image represents a portrait.

25. (New) Paper according to claim 20, wherein the screen of the screened image has amplitude modulation using a constant pitch.

26. (New) Paper according to claim 20, wherein the screen of the screened image has frequency modulation.

27. (New) Paper based on a fiber composition, the paper comprising at least one multitone effect watermark,

wherein the watermark, when observed in transmitted light, has a set of pale zones arranged in the manner of a screened image, and

wherein the pale zones are constituted by indentations in the fiber composition.

28. (New) Paper according to claim 27, wherein the watermark appears as a screened image whose screen marks are constituted at least 50% by lines.

29. (New) Paper according to claim 27, wherein the pale zones all have the same weight per unit area of fiber composition.

30. (New) Paper according to claim 27, the paper being colored, fluorescent, iridescent, or presenting any other shading or optical effect.

31. (New) Paper according to claim 27, wherein the screened image represents a portrait.

32. (New) Paper according to claim 27, wherein the screen of the screened image has amplitude modulation using a constant pitch.

33. (New) Paper according to claim 27, wherein the screen of the screened image has frequency modulation.
